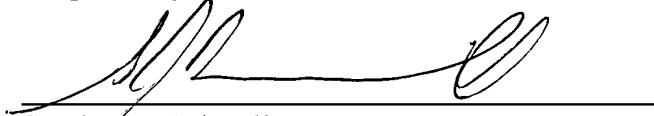


**Remarks**

This reply is intended to supplement the Preliminary Amendment filed on April 25, 2004. Specifically, pursuant to the Examiner's request, each claim has been provided with the proper status identifier.

In light of the above, an early and favorable response is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Stephen J. Driscoll  
Registration No. 37,564  
Attorney for Applicant  
The Whitaker Corporation  
4550 New Linden Hill Road  
Suite 140  
Wilmington, DE 19808  
Telephone: (215) 923-4466  
Facsimile: (302) 633-2776

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